

Message Text

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53

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 PC-01 NIC-01 /070 W

----- 024612

R 301730Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9376

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DAKAR 7076

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, SG, ET, PGOV,PINT

SUBJ: ETHIOPIAN DELEGATION VISITS SENEGAL

REF: ADDIS 15119

SUMMARY: FOUR-MAN DEL HEADED BY MAJOR TESFAYE
GEBRE-KIDAN ARRIVED IN DAKAR DEC 26, 1974, TO DELIVER
MESSAGE FROM ETHIOPIAN CHIEF OF STATE TIFERI
BANTO TO PRESIDENT SENGHOR AND EXPLAIN DEVELOPMENTS IN
ETHIOPIA TO SENEGALESE. DEL MET WITH PRESIDENT
SENGHOR. GEBRE-KIDAN GAVE PRESS CONFERENCE DEC 28.
END SUMMARY.

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1. GEBRE-KIDAN DESCRIBED HIS VISIT AS PART VAST

CAMPAIGN OF EXPLANATION AND INFORMATION ON RECENT EVENTS IN ETHIOPIA AND FALL OF EMPEROR HAILE SELASSIE. IN HIS PRESS CONFERENCE, HE CITED ECONOMIC MORASS IN WHICH ETHIOPIA MIRED, CORRUPTION, AND SOCIAL INEQUALITIES AS REASONS FOR MILITARY INTERVENHION. MILITARY HAD FIRST INTERVENED TO BRING ABOUT REFORM BUT IN VIEW OF INCAPACITY OF GOVT TO ACT, DECIDED ACCELERATE PROCESS, ABOLISH FEUDALISM, AND UPSET IMPERIAL REGIME. GEBRE-KIDAN REFUTED ALLEGATION THAT ARMY'S ACTION WAS "PALACE REVOLUTION". HE STRESSED ETHIOPIAN MILITARY GOVT HAD SUPPORT OF ENTIRE ARMED FORCES AND ETHIOPIAN PEOPLE.

2. KEY PRINCIPLE OF ETHIOPIAN GOVT IS "ETHIOPIA FIRST". GEBRE-KIDAN SAID MILITARY WOULD FOLLOW ETHIOPIAN PATH TO SOCIALISM. HE EXPRESSLY DENIED THAT ETHIOPIAN SOCIALISM HAD MAOIST COLORATION. EHTIOPIA DOES NOT INTERVENE IN AFFAIRS OF OTHER STATES AND WILL NOT TOLERATE INTERVENTION BY OTHERS IN ITS AFFAIRS, HE CONTINUED. PRINCIPLE OF FUTURE REFERENDUM IN ETHIOPIA ACCEPTED BUT IT WOULD BE NECESSARY EDUCATE PEOPLE FIRST AS WAS INTENT OF RECENTLY INAUGURATED PROGRAM TO SEND TEACHERS, STUDENTS AND INTELLECTUALS INTO PROVINCES TO TEACH RURAL MASSES. HE SAID THATNALTHOUGH ETHIOPIAN GOVT ENGAGED IN INTENSE EFFORTS TO FIND GROUNDS FOR AN "ENTENTE" WITH ERITREAN LIBERATION FRONT, IT NONETHELESS TRUE THAT ERITREA INTEGRAL PART OF ETHIOPIA.

3. GEBRE-KIDAN CLAIMED THAT HE HAD CALMED PRESIDENT SENGHOR'S FEAR WITH REGARD TO FATE OF EMPEROR. HOWEVER, HE ADDED LESS REASSURINGLY, THE MILITARY GOVT HAS NOT TAKEN A DECISION UP UNTIL NOW ON EMPEROR BECAUSE OF INTEREST OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IN HIS FATE AND BECAUSE IT RESTS WITH THE ENTIRE ETHIOPIAN PEOPLE TO PRONOUNCE ON THE QUESTION. GEBRE-KIDAN WAS ASKED REASONS FOR RECENT EXECUTIONS OF 61 ETHIOPIANS. ACCORDING TO PRESS, WHICH MAY HAVE REPORTED ONLY PORTION OF HIS REPLY, GEBRE-KIDAN ANSWERED THAT IT WAS A POLITICAL MATTER "C'ETAIT UNE QUESTION POLITIQUE".

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AGGREY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, GOVERNMENT REFORM, MEETING DELEGATIONS, GOODWILL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974DAKAR07076
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750001-0363
From: DAKAR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974125/aaaaadxz.tel
Line Count: 108
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 ADDIS 15119
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 MAY 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <30 DEC 2002 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
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Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ETHIOPIAN DELEGATION VISITS SENEGAL
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, PINT, OTRA, SG, ET, ELF, (KIDANE, TESFAY GERBE)
To: STATE ADDIS ABABA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005